

THURSDAY, NOV. 1, 2012

THE FORT JACKSON LEADER

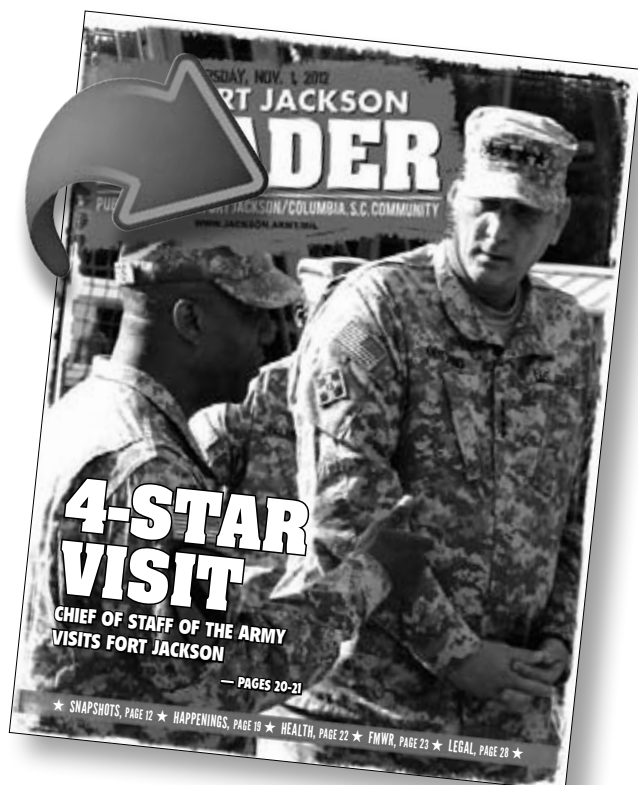
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4-STAR VISIT

CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMY
VISITS FORT JACKSON

— PAGES 20-21

★ SNAPSHOTS, PAGE 12 ★ HAPPENINGS, PAGE 19 ★ HEALTH, PAGE 22 ★ FMWR, PAGE 23 ★ LEGAL, PAGE 28 ★



ON THE COVER

Photo by MICHAEL B. POND, Public Affairs Officer

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond T. Odierno and Brig. Gen. Bryan Roberts, Fort Jackson commanding general, speak during Odierno's visit Oct. 25. **SEE PAGES 20-21.**



Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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COMMANDER'S CALL

Take advantage of your right to vote

Voting assistance officers help with last-minute questions

I voted absentee, have you?

If not, this Tuesday, Nov. 6, you will have the opportunity to cast your vote for the next President of the United States.

Each eligible Soldier, Family member and Civilian should take advantage of his or her Constitutional right to vote.

Our dedicated unit voting assistance officers across post have been working to ensure that Soldiers receive material and instruction on how to vote with an absentee ballot, location of voting polls and voting rights. I personally applaud them for doing such a great job during this important event that only takes place once every four years.

I am aware that there are a number of our Soldiers and Families who need to vote using an absentee ballot. If this is you, remember to return your ballot before the state deadline. In some states, service members are eligible to register and vote online the same day and on Election Day, Nov. 6.

Also, absentee voters can now track their ballots through the Federal Voting Assistance Program website to ensure they have been returned to their respective state voting office. These types of advantages have made a world of difference for our Soldiers and Families at home and abroad.

For many of our Soldiers in training this may very well

be their very first time voting in an election. We are ensuring that they understand how important this right is for a Soldier and an American citizen. They should have every opportunity possible to vote.

**By BRIG. GEN.
BRYAN T. ROBERTS**

Fort Jackson
Commanding General

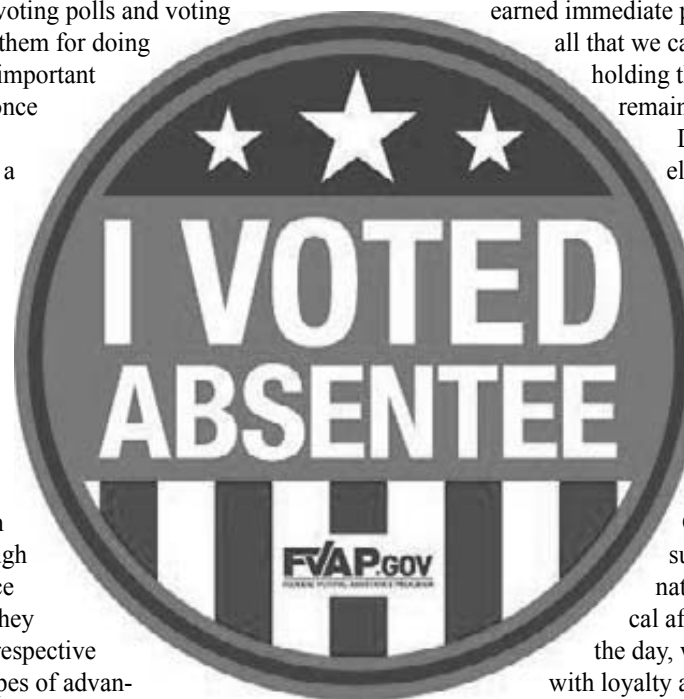
This is also true for our Department of the Army Civilians. To my DA Civilians, know your rights and where you will need to vote. Keep in mind that the expectation for service members to support a candidate, and a political party is highly sought out. I am sure I don't need to say much about this, but in our profession, we have earned immediate public trust, and we must do all that we can to ensure that we are upholding that trust and confidence by remaining neutral during elections.

During this presidential election year, we have been inundated with political messages and activities. We must remain focused on our responsibilities as an Army Family. Soldiers and Civilians must adhere to ethics and standards as government employees.

Please remember that we as Soldiers and DA Civilians took an oath to support and defend this great nation regardless of our political affiliation. And at the end of the day, we will continue to serve with loyalty and honor as this reaffirms our commitment to our nation.

Army Strong and Victory Starts Here!

Victory 6



Follow Brig. Gen. Bryan T. Roberts at www.facebook.com/FortJacksonCommandingGeneral



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for breaking news
and updates

www.twitter.com/fortjacksonpao

Excused leave for voting explained

From the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center

Election Day is Tuesday, and employees are encouraged to exercise their right to vote. Tuesday is also a work day for most people.

As a general rule, when the polls are not open at least three hours before or after an employee's regular hours of work, the employee may be granted an amount of excused leave which will permit the employee to report for work three hours after the polls open or leave work three hours before the polls close, whichever requires the lesser amount of time off.

The federal government grants employees limited time off from work (i.e., excused absence) to vote in federal, state or municipal elections.

The authority is discretionary in that time off must not interfere with agency operations. Typically, polling places throughout the state are open for extended periods of time. Therefore, excused absence should rarely be needed. An employee who works a flexible schedule should adjust that schedule to accommodate polling hours. The employee



can be excused only for hours that cannot be accommodated by the work schedule. Typically, no voting leave will be granted to employees whose workday begins three or more hours after the polls opens or ends more than three hours before the polls close.

If excused absence is necessary in the upcoming election, the following guidelines should be followed:

❑ An employee's "regular work hours" should be deter-

mined by reference to the time of day the employee normally arrives at and departs from work.

❑ If the polls are open from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m., the appropriate time periods for "voting leave" are 6 to 9 a.m. and 3 to 6 p.m.

Here are some examples:

❑ An employee works a compressed work schedule (nine-hour day) from 6 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. This employee could be granted 30 minutes of "voting leave" (from 3 to 3:30 p.m.), since that would result in the least amount of missed duty time.

❑ An employee works an 8-hour tour from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The employee is entitled to one hour of "voting leave" (8 to 9 a.m.), since this would result in the least amount of missed duty time.

In order to invoke voting leave, the employee must give the supervisor advance notice of the need for leave and indicate the preference for reporting to work late or leaving early. Supervisors of bargaining unit employees should refer to the applicable bargaining unit agreement before extending voting leave to employees.



Photo by WALLACE McBRIDE

Food critics

From left, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Princido Texidor, Ronald Coneybeer and Sgt. Maj. Reginald Ussell, all judges for the Philip A. Connelly Awards Program, evaluate a display in the Drill Sergeant School dining facility Oct. 25. The school's DFAC is competing to become the best facility in the Armywide contest. The results will be announced in January.

Unit helps protect from espionage

By **WALLACE McBRIDE**
Fort Jackson Leader

The 902nd Military Intelligence Detachment at Fort Jackson conducts operations and investigations throughout South Carolina to detect, identify, neutralize and defeat foreign intelligence and terrorism threats to U.S. Army and selected Department of Defense forces, technologies and critical information.

What does that mean, exactly?

“We handle any type of intelligence threat,” said Special Agent in Charge Ann Miranda Wardwell. “Counter intelligence detects, deters, neutralizes or exploits any type of foreign intelligence threat, whether it’s to the Department of Defense, civilians or Army personnel.”

Fort Jackson’s counter intelligence office is an unintentional secret on post. The office’s duties, possibly because of similarities in name, are sometimes confused with the Criminal Investigation Division.

“We don’t have anything to do with the criminal side of the house,” said Operations Officer Janice Williams. “We have nothing to do with drugs, theft, robbery or anything like that.”

Wardwell said the difference is a matter of perspective.

“Say a computer is stolen,” she said. “CID is concerned with who stole it. If there’s classified material on it, we’re concerned with whether or not it was a deliberate compromise, which can get the information and what could be done with it.”

WHEN TO CALL 1-800-CALL-SPY

- ❑ When unauthorized personnel ask about Army forces, secrets, technology, etc.
- ❑ In case of any known, suspected or contemplated acts of espionage by any personnel.
- ❑ If inappropriately searched, detained or questioned about your job while traveling in a foreign country, or have official documents stolen or confiscated.
- ❑ In case of contact with foreign military or intelligence personnel.
- ❑ In case of unauthorized intrusions or theft of sensitive computer system.
- ❑ In case of deliberate security violations or compromises.
- ❑ In case of any domestic or international terrorist threats.
- ❑ In case of discovery of technical surveillance device in sensitive areas.
- ❑ In case of any diversion or attempted diversion of U.S. technology to a foreign nation.

“We have an extensive community throughout South Carolina that we work with,” Williams said. Those groups include the State Law Enforcement Division, the FBI, Homeland Security and local law enforcement, among others.

“We’re not just here for the military, we’re here for anybody,” she said.

The office is tasked with handling counter intelligence operations not just for Fort Jackson, but for the state of South Carolina. Because of the amount of ground that needs to be covered, the office relies heavily on information from the public.

“We can’t be everywhere,” Williams said. “The Soldiers and civilians of this post are our eyes and ears. I think a lot of people don’t realize there is a threat, because this is a training post. With the amount of people that come on post, we always have the insider threat that we need to be aware of.”

“It’s a very open post,” Wardwell said, “especially when we have family visits and graduations. We try to work closely with force protection to counter anything that might happen.”

There are also proactive measures conducted by the office, including personal Threat Awareness and Reporting Program briefings. These briefings are mandatory, but Williams said there’s a big difference between the Internet briefings and those offered by the Fort Jackson office.

“You can go online and do it, but it takes three hours,” Williams said. “With us, you get an hour-long, in-person presentation.”

They also conduct travel briefings for Soldiers and civilian contractors planning to leave the country.

“If you have a security clearance and travel to these countries, you have to have travel briefings and debriefings,” Williams said. “Soldiers need to do this, regardless. If you’re an Army contractor or Army civilian and you travel to those countries and have a security clearance, you have to get your travel briefs.”

Welcome to Fort Jackson

Lt. Col. Raymond Simons, director of Emergency Services, checks a driver’s ID card at Gate 2 recently. Leaders from the organization checked ID cards during morning traffic to demonstrate their support and appreciation for the security guards performing this task on a daily basis.

Photo by **WALLACE McBRIDE**



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Like us on Facebook. Log on to your account and search for “Fort Jackson Leader.”

facebook

Awareness luncheon

Mildred Muhammad, former wife of D.C. sniper John Allen Muhammad, attends the Domestic Violence Awareness Month luncheon Friday at the Solomon Center. Muhammad spoke about her experiences with domestic abuse. The event was hosted by the Family Advocacy Program. The theme was, 'Don't turn your back on domestic violence.'

Photo by ANDREW McINTYRE



News and Notes

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE LUNCHEON SET

A luncheon in celebration of Native American Heritage Month is scheduled for 11:15 a.m. to 3 p.m., Nov. 16 at the Solomon Center. Tickets cost \$10. The guest speaker will be Will Moreau Goins of the Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes of South Carolina. For more information, contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Office, an equal opportunity adviser or call 429-4847.

HEALTH BENEFITS FAIR SCHEDULED

Federal civilian open season for health benefits will begin Nov. 12 and end Dec. 10. A health benefits fair is scheduled from 8 a.m. to noon, Nov. 9 at the Solomon Center. For more information on benefits, visit www.abc.army.mil or call 751-6379.

LEGAL NOTICES

❑ Anyone with debts owed to or by the estate of Pvt. Kyle Z. Alexander must contact 1st Lt. Dustin White, the summary court martial officer for the Soldier. Alexander passed away Oct. 6 on Fort Jackson. To contact White, call 751-1283 or email Dustin.R.White14.mil@mail.mil.

Board candidates introduced

Leader Staff Report

Elections for the Fort Jackson School Board are scheduled for Nov. 5 through 9 during school hours. The elections will be at C.C. Pinckney and Pierce Terrace elementary school.

Two new candidates will run for the school board.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Nealis works as a nurse at Moncrief Army Community Hospital. He said he is passionate about advocating for children to receive the best possible education and development through maximizing every dollar spent to fund schools.

Heidi Gin has been an Army spouse for more than 10 years. Gin has children attending both C.C. Pinckney and Pierce Terrace. She has extensive experience in helping children who suffer from abuse and children in the foster care system.



LEADER DEADLINES

Article submissions are due two weeks before publication. For example, an article for the Nov. 15 Leader must be submitted by to-

day. Announcement submissions are due one week before publication. For example, an announcement for the Nov. 15 Leader must

be submitted by Nov. 8.

Send your submissions to FJLeader@gmail.com. For more information, call 751-7045.

Sisters in Arms

Female Soldiers and DoD civilians assigned to Third Army/ARCENT gather at Shaw Air Force Base to take part in the installation's first Sisters in Arms meeting. Sisters in Arms is a team-building program to educate, train, mentor and empower women to become future leaders in the Army. Sisters in Arms will meet monthly. For more information, call 885-7148 or 885-8866.

Photo by SPC. SHAMAIN BURCH,
Third Army/ARCENT



National Guard responds to Sandy

By SGT. 1ST CLASS JIM GREENHILL
National Guard Public Affairs

ARLINGTON, Va. — More than 7,400 Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen were mobilized in 11 states to respond to Hurricane Sandy by Tuesday and more were on the way.

National Guard assistance to local first responders and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, known as FEMA, included support at evacuation shelters, route clearance, search and rescue and delivery of essential equipment and supplies.

The focus of National Guard missions was quickly shifting to recovery in the aftermath of the storm.

The governors of 12 states and the mayor of the District of Columbia declared a state of emergency because of the storm, now downgraded to a post-tropical cyclone even as it made its way further inland and continued to wreak havoc.

Guard members were assembling and staging in Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, North Carolina, Rhode Island and Virginia, according to the National Guard Coordination Center, which monitors the response spearheaded by the states.

In Connecticut, Guard members were responding to evacuation security support and high-wheeled search and rescue missions. High-wheeled vehicles were supporting civilian authorities in Maryland. In Massachusetts, a National Guard Civil Support Team was on stand-by for a possible hazardous materials response. In New Jersey, Guard members were assisting state police. In New York and Pennsylvania, they were assisting state emergency managers. In Virginia, citizen-Soldiers and citizen-Airmen were assisting with debris removal.

Each affected state was monitoring, assessing and responding as needed, and National Guard Bureau officials were monitoring and coordinating from the federal level.

Gen. Frank Grass, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, briefed President Barack Obama on the National Guard response in support of state, local and federal agencies as part of a FEMA briefing on Sunday.

On Monday, Grass was in dawn-to-dusk meetings with senior National Guard leaders, FEMA officials, the adjutants general and the secretary of defense, among others, to monitor and respond to the storm that has affected millions of Americans.

“We had to be ready to respond big and fast — so the National Guard ramped up in multiple states this weekend preparing to support local, state and federal civilian authorities,” Grass said. “We are part of a whole-of-government response to support state, local and federal agencies tackling the effects of this storm.”

National Guard officials were ready for the possibility of state requests for mutual aid. Emergency Management Assistance Compacts — ratified by Congress and law in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands — allow states to provide mutual aid if needed.

“Additional Army Guard forces, from outside the immediate hurricane affected states, are prepared to meet gaps in essential functions, if requested,” said Lt Gen William E. Ingram Jr., director of the Army National Guard.

“Through mutual assistance agreements, Army National Guard ground and aviation task forces, from neighboring FEMA region states, are ready to meet gaps in mission command, medical, communications, logistics, transportation, engineering, civil support, maintenance, security and aviation,” he said.

In just one example of states helping states, Wisconsin

Gov. Scott Walker said the Wisconsin National Guard stands ready to assist civilian authorities supporting Hurricane Sandy relief efforts in the impacted regions.

“Wisconsin’s outstanding National Guard is ready to help those affected by Hurricane Sandy,” Walker said. “As our nation braces for this massive storm, Wisconsin is hoping for the best, but preparing for the worst. If resources are needed, Wisconsin stands ready to deploy the National Guard for assistance.”

Some help was coming from the opposite side of the country: A Nevada National Guard 152nd Airlift Wing C-130 Hercules military transport aircraft and crew departed Monday for Moffett Field, Calif. to pick up a rescue boat, truck and several Guardian Angel Pararescue Airmen from the 129th Rescue Wing of the California Air National Guard.

The aircraft and load were scheduled to depart the airfield near Sunnyvale, Calif., later Monday for Charlotte, N.C., to assist with relief efforts. The 152nd, called to duty by the Air National Guard Readiness Center Crisis Action Team, was expected to arrive in North Carolina late Monday.

States were indicating early today that all needs were currently met.

The National Guard Bureau is monitoring the situation closely and coordinating with state, federal and local partners to ensure a coordinated and efficient response, Guard officials said. The National Guard — the nation’s first military responder — supports the FEMA response and that of U.S. Northern Command, among other agencies.

More than 85,000 National Guard members are available to assist civilian authorities in potentially affected states in support of relief efforts.

Editors note: The Nevada and Wisconsin National Guard contributed to this article.

The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families stopped for four shows at the Solomon Center Monday and Tuesday. Children got to meet some of their favorite characters like Elmo, Grover and the Cookie Monster, as well as a character that was introduced last year, Katie, who is a military child.

Photos by ANDREW McINTYRE





Photos by ANDREW McINTYRE

Fort Jackson families display their Elmo toys during one of four shows performed by the Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families at the Solomon Center Monday and Tuesday. The performance showcases the power of friendship when Elmo and his Sesame Street pals help Katie, a military child, open up about her fears and excitement as she deals with moving to a new place and making new friends.

Sesame Street characters visit post

By ANDREW McINTYRE
Fort Jackson Leader

The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families visited Fort Jackson Monday and Tuesday for four shows at the Solomon Center.

The tour is based on Sesame Street's military families initiative to help military children deal with the challenges of deployment and relocation.

"I think this show is important, because the children can use Sesame Street characters as role models that they can believe in, grown up with and they trust," said Tom Zaizar, company manager of the Sesame Street and USO Experience for Military Families.

In April 2011, Sesame Street introduced the character Katie, a military child who experiences the challenges of relocating after her parent's deployment.

"Characters like Katie give military children someone to identify with, who has the exact same issues they are going through," Zaizar said. "When we give the message that it is OK to move, to make new friends and keep friends, this gives children the tools not to feel scared or fearful and help other kids as

well."

More than 1,700 family members attended the two shows Monday, said Cindy Andre-Noel, Child and Youth School Services outreach coordinator.

Lt. Col. Dexter Caston and his wife, Demetria, brought their son Dylan, 18 months, who is a fan of Elmo.

"He loves Elmo, and so we just had to come out. The first name he ever said was Elmo," Demetria Caston said.

"We just moved here five months ago, and we have two older children whom this move has affected also, so we enjoyed the show," she said. "We knew this program would be geared towards military families, and so we came out because of that."

Maj. Randy Lefebvre and wife, Leslie, brought their daughter Claire, 2, to see Sesame Street, but also to get a glimpse at how the USO supports Soldiers and families.

"This is an important opportunity to see USO support the troops and ultimately the families which is the most important thing," Randy Lefebvre said. "If we can take care of the families then the Soldiers can concentrate on their mission."

Andrew R. McIntyre.civ@mail.mil



The Sesame Street/USO Experience for Military Families aims to help military children understand changes in their lives. Katie, Elmo's newest military friend, is sad because she is having to relocate to a new location with her family, but her friends are there to help through the difficult transition.



Photo by KENNETH CHASTAIN, CYSS

Fall Festival

Fort Jackson children dressed up as their favorite characters at Friday's Fall Festival at the Solomon Center. The event featured games and activities for children of all ages.



Photo by SPC. SHARMAIN BURCH, Third Army/ARCENT

Pastoral care support

Lt. Gen. Vincent Brooks, Third Army/ARCENT commanding general, speaks at the pastoral care luncheon Monday in Sumter. The event aims to educate and celebrate the work, willingness and witness of spiritual care givers



Courtesy photo

School support

Soldiers and Sailors with Task Force Marshall visit Kelly Mill Middle School as part of the unit's mentorship program. The guest speaker for the Staff Sgt. Donvivendo Jones.

Saluting this BCT cycle's honorees

DRILL SERGEANTS OF THE CYCLE



**Sgt. 1st Class
Natali Christenson**
Company A
1st Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment
**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Jeffrey Morales

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Halee Hargest

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pfc. Nicolas Romero

HIGH BRM
Pfc. Aaron Howard



**Sgt.
Andrea Uzcategui**
Company B
1st Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment
**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Howard Lindsey

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Joe Primo

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Martin Holguin

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Dakota Lutz



**Staff Sgt.
Jared Timko**
Company C
1st Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment
**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Amanda Sager

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pvt. Stuart Pendleton

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Dulguun Gankhuyag

HIGH BRM
Pvt. Christopher Bryan



**Staff Sgt.
Michael McCann**
Company D
1st Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment
**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pvt. Nathan Wolfgang

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Pfc. Devin Hobbs

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Jonathan Jackson

HIGH BRM
Pfc. Leo Schultz



**Sgt.
Clinton Tomlinson**
Company F
1st Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment
**SOLDIER LEADER
OF THE CYCLE**
Pfc. Timothy Rios

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE
Spc. Paul McMillan

HIGH APFT SCORE
Pvt. Demetruis Howard

HIGH BRM
Pvt. DaShon Hicks

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For information about display advertising, contact Kathy at 786-5681.

The *Leader* welcomes letters to the editor. All letters should include the name and hometown of the writer. Letters should also include a phone number for verification purposes.

The *Leader* reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, style, spelling and brevity. Send your letter to FJLeader@gmail.com. For more information, call 751-7045.

Training honors



BAMMER

**Staff Sgt.
Travis Bammer**
Drill sergeant leader
of the cycle
Drill Sergeant School



CARTER

**Staff Sgt.
Jennifer Carter**
Honor graduate
Drill Sergeant School



SUTTON

**Staff Sgt.
Jessica Sutton**
Leadership award
Drill Sergeant School



CURRY

**Staff Sgt.
Paul Curry**
Physical fitness award
(male)
Drill Sergeant School



DEAN

**Sgt. 1st Class
Kelly Dean**
Physical fitness award
(female)
Drill Sergeant School

Want more Fort Jackson news? Watch Fort Jackson video news stories and Victory Updates at <http://www.vimeo.com/user3022628>.

November Promotions

Name	Rank	Name	Rank	Name	Rank
PETSH, Daniel R.	LTC	CUMMINGHAM, Shalanda L.	SFC	GLASS, Serina D.	SSG
BURNSROSADO, Molly C.	MAJ	FRANKLIN, Angela L.	SFC	GONZALES, Justin W.	SSG
KIRBY, Kyle W.	MAJ	HENRY, Michael J.	SFC	HALL, Dorian R.	SSG
MACK, Charlie III	MAJ	HUMPHREY, Melissa T.	SFC	ROBERTS, Javon T.	SSG
TILLMAN, Jermon D.	MAJ	JORDAN, Eric D.	SFC	ROE, James W.	SSG
BARNES, Latoya F.	CPT	MORALES, Douglas F.	SFC	ACHO, Friday B.	SGT
MIDDLETON, Larry	CPT	RILEY, Rosebel K.	SFC	BODDY, Shakida V.	SGT
BRANNAN, Jeremy S.	MSG	RIVERABERTANCROUT, Eriel	SFC	BOLLER, Antonio L.	SGT
RHOOMS, Natasha R.	MSG	THOMPkins, Taterrian R.	SFC	CHI, Bong J.	SGT
WILKINS, Gwendolyn A.	MSG	THOMPSON, Marlion J.	SFC	CRISOSTOMO, Juan A.	SGT
BOWE, Benjamin M.	SFC	YOUNG, Scott C.	SFC	PROSCENO, Anthony M.	SGT
BURGESS, Herbert K.	SFC	BARNES, Christina E.	SSG	WIATER, Michael R.	SGT
COLON, Pamela K.	SFC	DAVIS, Davina C.	SSG	WOODSON, Cornelius H.	SGT
CRESPO, Roberto	SFC	FEARS, Shakelia R.	SSG		

Calendar

Monday

Wounded warrior caregiver conference
8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Solomon Center
For more information, call 776-4000, ext. 7180.

Wednesday, Nov. 14

Warrior Care Month: adaptive sports demonstration
2 to 4 p.m., Coleman Gym

Thursday, Nov. 15

America Recycles Day
10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Officers' Club
The event will include a shred truck, electronic waste collection, scrap metal collection and a book exchange. For more information, call 751-5971.

Announcements

DISPOSITION SERVICES CLOSURE

The Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services (formerly DRMO) will be closed Nov. 5-16 for training to transition to the new Reutilization Business Integration system.

COMMISSARY REWARDS CARD

The Commissary Reward Card is now available at the store. The card lets customers access digital coupons and redeem them in any commissary. To register the card, visit www.commissaries.com/rewards/index.cfm.

RECLAMATION SALE

A military clothing reclamation sale is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., today and Friday, at 2570 Warehouse Row. The cash-only sale is open to military personnel of all ranks and to military retirees. For more information, call 751-7213.

MORNING FITNESS CLASSES

Andy's Fitness Center now offers three new morning classes.

- ☐ 9 a.m., Mondays, kettlebell
- ☐ 10 a.m., Wednesdays, cardiobox
- ☐ 10 a.m., Thursdays, strength and conditioning

For more information, call 751-5768.

BLACKHAWK BALL

The 171st Infantry Brigade will host its annual Blackhawk Ball at 6 p.m., Friday at the DoubleTree hotel in Columbia. The guest speaker will be TRADOC Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Dailey. Tickets cost \$40. To RSVP, call 751-3319 or 751-3301.

ABSENTEE BALLOT INFORMATION

Soldiers can access the federal write-in

absentee ballot at <http://fvap.gov/reference/forms.html>. Unit voting assistance officers can answer questions about voting deadlines.

AAFES CONTEST

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service is looking for the most adorable child in its third annual "Cutest Kiddo Contest." Participants should upload a photo to the Exchange's Facebook page by Nov. 8. Prizes include a cruise and Exchange gift cards.

RECYCLE DAY CONTEST

Help celebrate Recycle Day Nov. 15 by submitting items made from recycled materials to the Environmental Management Branch. Prizes will be awarded to the best items submitted. For more information, call 751-5971 or email lisa.a.mcknight11.ctr@mail.mil.

MACH WEIGHT MANAGEMENT

The Pathway is a free weight management program provided by Moncrief Army Community Hospital's Nutrition Clinic. Introductory classes are offered 10 to 11 a.m. and 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., the first Wednesday of the month at MACH, Room 8-85. Support group meetings take place 6:15 to 7:15 p.m., the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at MACH, fourth floor dining facility. For more information, call 751-2489.

THRIFT SHOP NEWS

- ☐ Donations can be dropped off any time. To get a receipt, drop off your donations during business hours.
- ☐ The Thrift Shop will hold a weekly football drawing throughout football season.
- ☐ The Thrift Shop is accepting Thanksgiving items through Nov. 8.
- ☐ The Thrift Shop is accepting Christmas items Nov. 13 through Dec. 13.
- ☐ The Thrift Shop will be closed Nov. 20-22.

Visit the community calendar at www.jackson.army.mil for a full listing of calendar events. Send your announcements to fjleader@gmail.com.

Housing happenings

All events are held in the Community Center, 520 Brown Ave., unless otherwise specified. Call 738-8275 for information.

PLASTIC BAG RECYCLING

Bring your plastic bags to the Community Center for recycling. Residents will be entered into a drawing for a gift card once per every 20 bags turned in.

SELF HELP

The Self Help Center offers lawn mowers for check-out. The center is located on Ivy

Road and is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For more information, call 787-6416.

TRASH PICKUP

Residents are asked to place trash cans curbside the night before service is scheduled. Once the trash can has been emptied, it should be stored away properly.

MINOL UTILITY BILLS

Residents are required to pay their Minol utility bills each month. If the bill becomes delinquent after 30 days, the resident's chain of command will be notified.

HSO ASSISTANCE

The Housing Services Office can help resolve disputes between landlords and tenants. For more information, call 751-5788/7566.

Off-post events

The Fort Jackson Leader accepts only off-post announcements for those organizations or events that directly relate to service members and their families.

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

Gray Military Academy will offer free admittance to service members in uniform at its final football game of the season at 2 p.m., Sunday at Charlie W. Johnson Stadium. For more information, visit www.graymilitaryacademy.org.

PTSD STUDY SEEKS PARTICIPANTS

Researchers with the Dorn VA Hospital and the University of South Carolina are conducting a study of physical activity for veterans with combat-related post traumatic stress disorder. For more information, contact Shawn Youngstedt at 777-2666 or by emailing syoungstedt@sc.edu.

345TH BOMB GROUP REUNION

A reunion commemorating the 70th anniversary of the activation of the 345th Bomb Group is scheduled for Nov. 9-12 at L.B. Owens Airport in Columbia. World War II airplanes will be on display for the public on the afternoon of Nov. 9. For more information, call (785) 647-7541.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Send all submissions to FJLeader@gmail.com. For more information, call 751-7045. For information about classified advertising, contact Camden Media Co. at 432-6157. Classified ads may also be sent by fax to 432-7609 or by email to sbranham@ci-camden.com.

FLU SHOTS

Moncrief Army Community Hospital is offering free influenza vaccines to military ID card holders. Flu shots will be offered at the following locations:

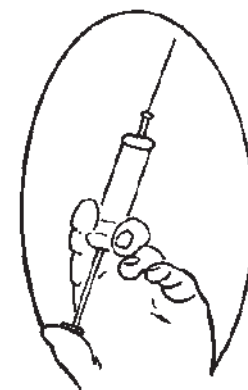
☐ **MACH, 6th floor, Room 5:** Nov. 1, 6 and 8, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

☐ **Solomon Center:** Nov. 5, 19 and 26, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

☐ **Commissary:** Nov. 13, 15, 20, 27 and 29, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

☐ **Exchange:** Nov. 2, 16 and 30, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Vaccines for children younger than 4 are available at MACH, Room 6-39.



Friday, Nov. 2 — 7 p.m.
Trouble with the Curve PG-13

Saturday, Nov. 3 — 4 p.m.
Lawless R

Sunday, Nov. 4 — 2 p.m.
Trouble with the Curve PG-13

Wednesday, Nov. 7 — 1 p.m.
Trouble with the Curve PG-13

Wednesday, Nov. 7 — 4 p.m.
Lawless R

For more listings, visit www.aafes.com or call 751-7488.

Adults: \$5
Children (6-11 years old): \$2.50



Watch Fort Jackson video news stories and Victory Updates
at <http://www.vimeo.com/user3022628>





Photo by STAFF SGT.TEDDY WADE, Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond T. Odierno and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael McCoy, commandant of the Drill Sergeant School, take a look at the food offered at the school's dining facility before having breakfast with drill sergeants Friday. The breakfast was part of Odierno's two-day visit to Fort Jackson, which also included observing training and conducting a town hall meeting.

Far right, a Soldier asks a question during the town hall meeting Oct. 25 at the Post Theater. Second from right, Odierno talks to Staff Sgt. Christopher Nelson, a drill sergeant with 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment, during the general's visit to Victory Tower. Third from right, Odierno speaks at the town hall meeting. Right, Odierno greets Brig. Gen. David MacEwen, commanding general of the Soldier Support Institute as Brig. Gen. Bryan Roberts, Fort Jackson commanding general, looks on.



Photo by 1ST LT. LONG PHAM, 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment



Photo by SUSANNE KAPPLER

CSA visits Fort Jackson

By SUSANNE KAPPLER
Fort Jackson Leader

Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Raymond T. Odierno visited Fort Jackson Oct. 25 for the first time in his 36-year Army career. During his visit, Odierno observed Basic Combat Training sites, spoke with drill sergeants and conducted a town hall meeting.

During the town hall meeting, Odierno said visiting Fort Jackson was important to him because of the significance the installation has to the Army.

"Here is where (new Soldiers) first get their first taste of being in the Army, their first taste of change in their life," Odierno said. "We know that 54,000 Soldiers trained here in the past 10 months. So your impact on the Army as a whole is quite significant."

He said he had the chance to observe some "really good, tough training."

"I was impressed with the young men and women I saw. I was impressed with the fact that it was clear that they were trying to make themselves better, that they wanted to be part of something that was better than themselves," Odierno said. "That's what this place is about."

Before fielding questions from the audience, Odierno

gave an overview of the Army's direction to the Soldiers, civilians and family members who attended the town hall meeting.

He said that because the Department of Defense is facing about \$500 billion in budget cuts over the next 10 years, troop numbers in the Army are projected to go down from 570,000 Soldiers at the beginning of this year to 490,000 by the end of 2017.

"The main thing we want to do is we want to keep the best Soldiers, the best officers, the best civilians that we can in the Army," he said.

He reassured Soldiers that the majority of troop cuts will be achieved through natural attrition and not through forced separation.

"I'm just telling you upfront that if you're doing your job and you're keeping your nose clean, you'll have no problem re-enlisting," Odierno said.

Many of the questions fielded by Soldiers in attendance centered on budget cuts as well.

Odierno assured Soldiers that the retirement benefits of those who are on active duty now will not be affected by the cuts. He said any potential new retirement plan would include a great deal of input from the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"We want to make sure that the (retirement) package is something that is representative of the sacrifice that is

asked of our Soldiers and families," he said.

Odierno emphasized that during the current economic situation every Soldier's help is required by practicing good financial stewardship.

"The problem we have now is we have a lot of people who've been in the Army only since 9/11. Since 9/11 we've had more money in the Army than any time in my career," Odierno said. "And what we've done is we've taught bad habits, because if you needed something you could get it. ... That's not how it's always been in the Army. ... What we have to be able to do is inculcate in all of us a way to make the best use of every dollar that we have. ... It's incumbent on us to retrain ourselves to understand how we become good stewards of our Army and our equipment."

Odierno also addressed the need to make sure the number and quality of drill sergeants in the Army is adequate.

"It's not just about having drill sergeants, but about having the right people here to be drill sergeants," he said. "To me, this is one of the most important assignments you can have. One of the things we're talking about is we'll let promotion boards know this as well — that we consider drill sergeant to be one of the most important jobs in the Army."

Susanne.Kappler1.ctr@mail.mil



Photo by ANDREW McINTYRE



Photo by STAFF SGT.TEDDY WADE, Office of the Chief of Staff of the Army

Mark smokeout by quitting tobacco

From Moncrief Army
Community Hospital

Moncrief Army Community Hospital will celebrate "The Great American Smokeout" Nov. 15 at the Post Exchange from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and at the hospital lobby from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participants are encouraged to quit smoking for 24 hours.

The benefits are many, and the possibilities are endless. Twenty minutes after quitting, your heart rate and blood pressure drop. Twelve hours after quitting, the carbon monoxide level in your blood drops to normal. After two weeks to three months, the circulation improves and your lung function increases.

Coughing and shortness of breath decrease one to nine months after you stop smoking. Cilia start to regain normal function in the lungs increasing the ability to handle mucus, clean the lungs and reduce the risk of infections. Cilia are tiny hair-like structures that move mucus out of the lungs.

Excess risk of coronary heart disease is half that of smokers after quitting for one year.

Your risk of mouth, throat, esophagus and bladder cancer is cut in half after five years, and cervical cancer risk falls to that of non-smokers.

The risk of stroke falls to that of non-smokers after two to five years.

Ten years after quitting, the risk of dying from lung cancer is about half that of a person who is still smoking. And the risk of cancer of the larynx and pancreas decreases. Coronary heart disease risks become that of non-smokers 15 years after stopping.

These are just a few of the benefits

of quitting smoking for good. Quitting lowers the risk of diabetes, lets blood vessels work better, and helps the heart and lungs. Quitting while you are younger will reduce your health risks more, but quitting at any age can give back years of life that would be lost by continuing to smoke.

Kicking the tobacco habit offers some immediate benefits and some you will develop over time. Stained teeth get whiter. The smoky smell on your breath and in your clothes and hair go away. Discoloration on your fingers and fingernails disappear, and your sense of taste and sense of smell improve. Everyday activities, such as climbing stairs or light housework, no longer leave you breathless.

The prospect of better health is a major reason for quitting, but there are other reasons, too. Smoking is expensive. It isn't hard to figure out how much you spend on smoking. Multiply how much money you spend on tobacco every day by 365 days a year.

The amount may surprise you. Now multiply that by the number of years you have been using tobacco, and that amount will probably shock you.

Multiply the cost per year by 10 for the next 10 years and ask yourself what you would rather do with that much money. This doesn't include other possible costs, such as higher costs for health and life insurance and likely health care costs due to tobacco-related problems.

Furthermore, if you continue smoking for 40 years, at \$5 per pack and one pack per day with compound interest of 5 percent, had you invested the money costs can exceed \$270,000.

For more information about quitting smoking come to the smokeout or visit www.cancer.org/healthy/stayawayfromto-



Help create a
world with less
cancer and
more **birthdays.**

American Cancer Society
Great American Smokeout®
November 15, 2012

cancer.org/smokeout | 1.800.227.2345

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American Cancer Society®

cancer.org/guidetoquittingsmoking/guide-to-quitting-smoking-benefits.

Editor's note: This article was com-

plied from information provided by the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org.

Family Appreciation Month events on tap

By **THERESA O'HAGAN**

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

Military Family Appreciation Month will kick off with a free brunch for military families Sunday at the Officers' Club, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and is limited to the first 600 customers (active duty military and their immediate family members).

To make a reservation, call 782-8761. Last year, more than 400 people attended the brunch.

"This has been wonderfully executed," said Jose Gonzalez, who attended last year with his wife and son. "Very excellent ... the food exceeded my expectations; the entertainment exceeded my expectation. I am happy we decided to attend."

Special events are planned throughout November. Another popular event is the Family Fun Festival, hosted by Child, Youth and School Services, Nov. 17, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Solomon Center. The event features games, bounce house, slide and more free for all military families.

Each year, FMWR offers at least one contest to families. This year, families can win an original charcoal drawing by pastel artist Courtney Blanchard.

"It's so easy to enter this contest," said FMWR Superhero and spokesperson, Dot Com. "Post your favorite family photo to my Facebook page today through Nov. 15. Get your friends and family to vote by liking your photo. The photo with the most likes wins. The winner will be announced at the Family of the Year ceremony, Nov. 16, at 4 p.m. in the Solomon Center. In addition, the winner

will receive a \$100 gift certificate for framing at the Frame Shop."

This month, military families can take advantage of these special offers:

- ❑ Century Lanes: Any time that lanes are available, all military ID cardholders can enjoy two-hour lane rental, balls, shoes, pizzas and sodas for four for \$25.
- ❑ Palmetto Greens Miniature Golf: Free round of golf at Palmetto Greens for each member of the family, Saturdays and Sundays.
- ❑ Weston Lake: Free daily canoe or kayak rentals all month.
- ❑ Marion Street Station: Free bike rentals all month.
- ❑ Retail Zone: 25 percent off all purchases at the Retail Zone (excludes closeouts and sales).
- ❑ Officers' Club: Kids eat free all month (with purchase of adult meal).
- ❑ Frame Shop: 25 percent off framing for family portraits.
- ❑ Fort Jackson Golf Club: Saturdays and Sundays, families can hit the links and save money. Adults play for \$10 and children for \$5.

Special events include:

- ❑ Nov. 15 – America Recycles Day and craft contest, Officers' Club, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. All creative types are encouraged to enter the Upcycle/Recycle Craft Contest with a \$500 Cash Prize. For rules and registration contact Lisa McKnight, 751-5971. Bring your recyclables! Metal, personal e-waste and papers for shredding!
- ❑ Nov. 15 – Family outreach event – story and craft

at Balfour Beatty 6:30 to 8 p.m. Holiday story by guest reader Dot Com, cookies and cocoa, and stamp art on Kraft Paper wrapping paper, make-one, take-one holiday card and make-one, take-one tree ornament, sponsored by the Solomon Center. This is a drop-in event; please RSVP to Alana Youngblood at 738-8275.

❑ Nov. 16 – Families of the Year ceremony – 4 p.m., Solomon Center.

❑ Nov. 17 – CYSS Family Fun Festival, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Solomon Center.

❑ Nov. 21 – Family Bingo at Victory Bingo, 4 to 7 p.m. Free to play. Families win family movie DVDs, Family and MWR bucks, toys, games, and more. Enjoy Free Pizza and dessert bar.

❑ Nov. 30 – Postwide yard sale in the Solomon Center. This event is free and available on a first-come, first-serve basis, 2 to 7 p.m. (Crafters welcome.) To register or for more information call Kris Roth at 751-4056.

❑ Dec. 6 – Family outreach event — Better to give at Balfour Beatty, 3 to 5 p.m. — Children will wrap presents for Epworth Children's Home with wrapping paper they make. Each child will also be able to make two craft gifts — one to give and one to keep. The children will put gift bags together for Epworth Children's Home and then they will be given a gift bag of their own. Refreshments will be offered. This is a drop-in event; however, please RSVP to Alana Youngblood at 738-8275.

Keep up with all Military Family Appreciation Month events with the Leader, on Facebook and the FMWR website, www.fortjacksonmwr.com



Think before putting ink on title loan

From the Legal Assistance Office

The 2007 Military Authorization Act made it illegal for creditors to grant car title loans to military members. While the legislation resulted in many payday and title lenders closing shops around military bases, some locations and websites still target military members.

Whether you are a Soldier, family member, or retiree, you should think twice before you use your hard-earned vehicle as security for a loan.

Auto title loan companies advertise their services as quick and temporary loans to help consumers get out of a jam. However, many people wind up with a larger and more long-term problem. Borrowers can end up paying very high-interest rates and a great deal of money, or may even lose their vehicles.

WHAT IS AN AUTO TITLE LOAN?

An auto title loan is a short-term loan, usually no longer than 30 days, for which a car title is used to secure the loan. This means if the loan is not repaid, the lender may take the car and sell it to get the loan money back. The lenders make money from high-interest rates and the repossession of cars when borrowers cannot pay off the loans.

HOW MUCH DOES AN AUTO TITLE LOAN REALLY COST?

The loan is generally written with an interest rate for a short-time period. For example, the loan will show a 25 percent interest rate for one month. But this rate over a year is actually 300 percent. At the end of the initial 30-day period, the lender will accept the interest payment and allow the debt to be “rolled over” for another month.

On a \$600 loan, the interest would be approximately \$150. This means the total owed is \$750. If only the interest of \$150 is paid for the month, the borrower still owes \$750 the next month. In South Carolina, the lender may not allow the loan to be renewed more than six times. The vast majority of auto title loans in South Carolina are over \$600 because South Carolina law limits interest rates on loans under that amount.

HOW DO I KNOW THAT THE INTEREST RATE ON AN AUTO TITLE LOAN IS HIGH?

Some auto title lenders may state that they charge

a “fee” and not an “interest rate.” The Federal Truth in Lending Act requires that both interest and fees be combined and disclosed to borrowers as an Annual Percentage Rate. Whether the loan is for two weeks or two years, the cost of the credit must be disclosed in terms of APR. South Carolina law also mandates that the lender provide the following notice on the loan paperwork: “This is a high-interest loan. You should go to another source if you have the ability to borrow at a lower rate of interest. You are placing your vehicle at risk if you default on this loan.”

WHAT HAPPENS IF THE LOAN ON THE VEHICLE IS NOT PAID OFF?

Except for when there is fraud, the only thing the auto title lender can do is to repossess (take it from the borrower) and sell the car. The lender may not sue the borrower to repay the loan, but the lender will take the car. Contact a lawyer if this is about to happen.

WHAT IF AFTER I SIGN THE PAPERS I WANT TO GET OUT OF THE DEAL?

You have the right to cancel or rescind the deal for one business day. Borrowers must repay the amount borrowed without interest until the close of business on the day after the date the original loan began. For example, if someone borrows \$601 on Tuesday, he or she must give back all the money by the end of Wednesday, but without any interest.

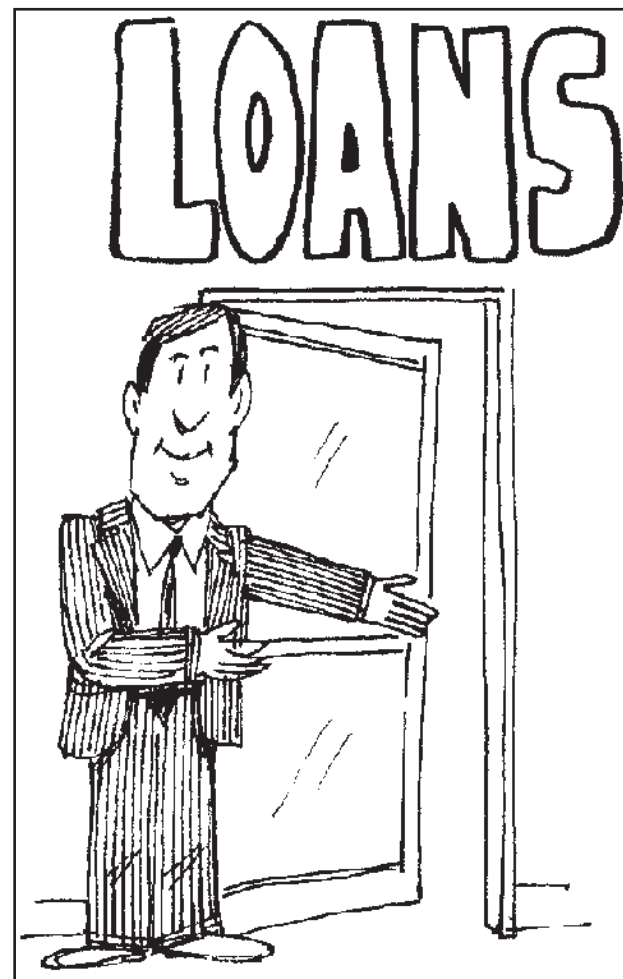
WHAT IF THE LENDER INCREASES THE INTEREST RATE IN RENEWALS?

By law, the lender may not advertise or offer a lower interest rate for the original period if the interest rate increases in later renewals. For example, the lender may not advertise a 10 percent interest rate if that rate increases to 25 percent in the renewal periods.

IF I REALLY NEED MONEY NOW, WHAT CAN I DO?

If you are in need of financial assistance, you should look for other options. For example, you may be able to obtain assistance from military aid societies, such as Army Emergency Relief. You may also be able to borrow money from family or friends, although this path is dangerous because it may lead to relationship strains if you have difficulty paying the money back.

You may also be able to obtain a loan from a credit



union, bank, or a small loan company that will likely offer much lower interest rates than payday or title loans. Be sure to ask for special offers for military applicants, and seek advice from a financial counselor and/or attorney before signing any paperwork.

The Fort Jackson Legal Assistance Office can provide further information regarding automobile purchases. Although attorneys at the office can provide advice concerning this matter, they cannot represent you in a South Carolina court. If you would like to talk about title loans, payday loans, or similar concerns, please call the Legal Assistance Office at 751-4287 to schedule an appointment with an attorney.